United Nations A/HRC/38/14

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 April 2018

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirty-eighth session
18 June–6 July 2018
Agenda item 6
Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

United Arab Emirates

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

GE.18-06167(E)
1806167

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-ninth session from 15 to 26 January 2018. The review of the United Arab Emirates was held at the 12th meeting, on 22 January 2018. The delegation of the United Arab Emirates was headed by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Anwar Mohammad Gargash. At its 17th meeting, held on 25 January 2018, the Working Group adopted the report on the United Arab Emirates.

2. On 10 January 2018, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the United Arab Emirates: Egypt, Peru and the Republic of Korea.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the United Arab Emirates:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/29/ARE/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/29/ARE/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/29/ARE/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Brazil, Czechia, Germany, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to the United Arab Emirates through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates stated that a national universal periodic review committee had developed a plan to implement the outcome of the most recent review and met regularly to assess progress. Civil society had played an integral role in that process.

6. During the second universal periodic review cycle in 2013, the United Arab Emirates had accepted, in whole or in part, 107 recommendations. Since then, considerable progress had been made in implementing the vast majority of those recommendations. The national report detailed efforts to protect and promote human rights in key thematic areas: promoting civil and political rights; increasing the protection of workers; combating human trafficking; and empowering women and youth.

7. The rise of extremist forces over the past few years presented dilemmas, not only in the region, but around the world. Governments were grappling with the challenge of how to protect their societies from genuine security threats, while safeguarding fundamental rights. The United Arab Emirates was committed to finding the right balance between meeting its legitimate need for security and preserving its reputation as an open society. It would do so strictly within the framework of its Constitution and laws, while respecting international human rights principles.

8. The United Arab Emirates would continue to strengthen national institutions that would effectively protect and promote human rights and would, in 2018, establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

9. Since the launch of a gradual process of expansion of political participation in 2005, three elections to the Federal National Council had been held. Both women and men had participated in the electoral process, leading to the election of several women to the Council and to the appointment of the first female speaker of any Arab parliament.

10. The United Arab Emirates was among the highest-ranking countries in the Arab world for gender equality, according to the United Nations Development Programme gender inequality index. Women occupied two thirds of jobs in the federal Government, and there were nine female ministers in the Cabinet. More than 70 per cent of Emiratis enrolled at federal higher education institutions were women. Women had become fighter pilots in the air force, and almost half of the Emirati scientists and engineers working to send a space probe to Mars were women.

11. In 2014, a cabinet decision had been issued ordering the inclusion of women on the governing boards of all government bodies, institutions and companies. The United Arab Emirates had adopted the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women (2015–2021), which had set strategic goals for achieving greater equality in the workplace. It had been a core supporter of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and had opened a liaison office in Abu Dhabi in 2016. In the context of the United Nations, the United Arab Emirates had taken a decisive stand for women's rights in the field of education, and had spearheaded partnerships in support of the women and peace and security agenda.

12. Individuals from many different countries and backgrounds lived and worked side by side harmoniously in the United Arab Emirates, and their rights were fully protected. That melting pot of communities was fundamental to the Emirati way of life. Since the second universal periodic review, the United Arab Emirates had expanded workers' rights and protections with new legislation and more intensive enforcement. Domestic and construction workers in particular had benefited from recent reforms.

13. Reforms to labour legislation in 2016 had allowed workers more flexibility in changing employers. The United Arab Emirates had also enacted several measures, including establishing service centres in workers' home countries, to help ensure that all workers understood the terms of their contracts prior to their departure, and to combat unscrupulous employment agencies in their countries of origin. In 2017, a specific law had been introduced providing greater protection for domestic workers, who had been brought under the oversight of the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization.

14. The National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking continued to implement an integrated national strategy to tackle the horrific violation of basic human rights that was human trafficking. In 2017, the Federal Anti-Human Trafficking Act had been amended to enhance protection for victims and to increase penalties for those found guilty of that crime.

15. Youth had been prioritized and, in 2016, the first ever Minister for Youth had been appointed to the Cabinet and a youth council had been established. A National Strategy for Youth Empowerment had also been developed, and the Ministry of Education had adopted a five-year strategic plan for implementing an innovative education system to help young people to participate in a world-class, knowledge-based economy.

16. In 2015, a new anti-discrimination law had been enacted banning all forms of discrimination on the grounds of religion, race or ethnic origin, and incitement to religious hatred. The National Tolerance Programme had been adopted and the world's first tolerance charter had been launched.

17. The United Arab Emirates had been at the forefront of the fight against extremism in the region, supporting efforts to drive Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant from Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, and to combat Al-Qaida in Yemen and Somalia. It had promoted and empowered moderate voices, both at home and abroad. It was also fighting dangerous ideologies online. Since 2015, the Sawab Centre in Abu Dhabi had been working hard to counter the online propaganda of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and of other extremist groups.

18. In order to mitigate the humanitarian consequences of extremism and sectarianism, in 2016, the United Arab Emirates had distributed over $4.2 billion in official development

assistance to people worldwide, and had maintained its ranking as the world's biggest donor in proportion to gross national income.

19. The United Arab Emirates continued to alleviate the plight of Syrian refugees. Since the onset of the crisis, the United Arab Emirates had welcomed over 130,000 persons fleeing the violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, and had pledged to take in a further 15,000 persons in need of assistance.

20. In Yemen, the United Arab Emirates and the Arab coalition continued to make every effort to support and deliver humanitarian assistance and to protect civilians. Under extremely challenging circumstances, the coalition was working hard to reinstate the legitimate government of Yemen. Since the ongoing conflict in Yemen had escalated, the United Arab Emirates had provided over $2.5 billion in aid and, with its partners, had brought food and water and health care and other life-saving services to millions of persons and rebuilt and reopened a number of schools and medical centres in liberated areas.

21. However, the current humanitarian challenges could only truly be addressed by negotiating inclusive political settlements to the region's civil wars. The political resolution of the crises in the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and Libya was of paramount importance, and the efforts of the United Arab Emirates in that field continued.

22. The United Arab Emirates was alarmed at recent statements relating to the status of Jerusalem, and urged progress on ensuring the right of Palestinians to an independent State, which would have a positive impact on many other challenges in the region.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

23. During the interactive dialogue, 97 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

24. Bahrain welcomed efforts to implement the recommendations from the previous review cycle and the progress achieved.

25. Libya praised the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

26. Liechtenstein expressed concern that cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment was judicially imposed on children, and that the death penalty had been retained.

27. Malaysia commended progress in the areas of labour, social welfare, health care, education, empowerment of women, children's rights, older persons and persons with disabilities.

28. Maldives commended steps taken to combat human trafficking, and the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women.

29. Mauritania applauded developments at the normative and institutional levels, and consistent policies and strategies to strengthen human rights.

30. Mexico welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

31. Mongolia encouraged the United Arab Emirates to extend an open-ended, standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

32. Montenegro welcomed efforts to improve education for women and children, and noted the need to include measures relating to positive and non-violent forms of child-rearing.

33. Morocco welcomed steps to implement National Vision 2021, the National Tolerance Programme and the national strategy to combat human trafficking.

34. Mozambique commended the submission of reports to treaty bodies covering the rights of the child, of women and of persons with disabilities and racial discrimination.

35. Myanmar welcomed the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women, while calling for the rights of women and foreign workers to be further enhanced.

36. Nepal encouraged the United Arab Emirates to continue to protect migrant workers, to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and to immediately introduce a moratorium on the death penalty.

37. The Netherlands noted increasing restrictions on rights and freedoms arising from the cybercrime law, the anti-terrorism law, the anti-discrimination law and amendments to the Penal Code.

38. Norway noted the new federal act on domestic workers, while calling for the release from custody of individuals detained while peacefully exercising the rights to freedom of expression and to assembly.

39. Oman praised the adoption of polices and strategies, including the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood and the National Strategy for Youth Empowerment.

40. Paraguay welcomed the legal and institutional progress made since the previous universal periodic review, including the establishment of the national Human Rights Committee and the Gender Balance Council.

41. Peru acknowledged progress in the human rights situation, especially in combating human trafficking.

42. The Philippines supported initiatives promoting labour rights, the protection of domestic workers and the implementation of reforms and policies for foreign workers.

43. Portugal welcomed efforts to tackle gender discrimination, and to improve children's rights.

44. Qatar expressed concern at continued human rights violations, particularly those relating to the coercive unilateral measures taken against it.

45. The Republic of Korea welcomed legislation to combat trafficking, the Federal Rights of the Child Act No. 3 of 2016 (the "Wadeema" Act) and the National Policy for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

46. The Republic of Moldova welcomed measures to protect children and migrant workers, and encouraged the United Arab Emirates to take further measures to achieve gender equality.

47. The Russian Federation welcomed the establishment of the national Human Rights Committee and the Gender Equality Council, and the adoption of the National Tolerance Programme.

48. Saudi Arabia welcomed the establishment of the national Human Rights Committee, which specialized in considering bilateral, regional and international conventions.

49. Senegal praised efforts to combat human trafficking, discrimination and incitement to hatred, and to promote gender balance in the public and private sectors.

50. Sierra Leone encouraged the United Arab Emirates to ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

51. Singapore commended the adoption of the "Wadeema Act", the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood and the National Policy for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

52. Slovakia welcomed the accession of the United Arab Emirates to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

53. Slovenia encouraged the United Arab Emirates to take the necessary steps to address the remaining challenges regarding gender equality and the empowerment of women.

54. The State of Palestine expressed appreciation for efforts to improve and advance education, including through the 2017–2020 Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Education.

55. The Sudan welcomed steps taken to achieve National Vision 2021, and efforts to combat human trafficking and to strengthen the protection of labour rights.

56. Sweden made recommendations.

57. Switzerland expressed regret at the fact that its recommendations from the second universal periodic review cycle had not been accepted, and encouraged full cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

58. Thailand welcomed the adoption of Federal Act No. 15 of 2017 on domestic service, and the establishment of the Gender Balance Council and the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking.

59. Timor-Leste noted institutions protecting children and youth, and promoting gender equality. It remained concerned that women and men did not have the same rights regarding nationality.

60. Tunisia welcomed the adoption of laws and decrees since the previous review process, particularly those relating to combating discrimination, hatred and human trafficking.

61. Turkmenistan welcomed measures taken to implement review recommendations, including institutional and political measures to promote women's empowerment.

62. Ukraine commended the consistent approach to human rights, implemented with notable success by institutions guided by national policies and strategies.

63. The United Kingdom recognized the change to national legislation allowing State security cases to be heard by the Federal Court of Appeal.

64. The United States of America commended efforts to protect migrant workers, women, children and persons with disabilities, and to promote religious tolerance.

65. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates stressed that the United Arab Emirates would establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, in 2018. Accession to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and a number of other human rights instruments was also being seriously considered. The United Arab Emirates was keen to strengthen its relations with all human rights mechanisms, particularly the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and would extend invitations to special rapporteurs on relevant issues.

66. After the second universal periodic review cycle, the United Arab Emirates had established the Human Rights Committee, comprising representatives of the Government, federal and local stakeholders and civil society organizations. The Committee had diligently carried out the groundwork for the national report through open consultations with stakeholders and civil society organizations. The body, which raised awareness of human rights through its various programmes and followed up on review recommendations, would be revamped after the third review cycle, with a view to enhancing its performance.

67. The death penalty was applicable only in a few cases. The records proved that the United Arab Emirates was not keen to resort to capital punishment. Its relevant systems would be reviewed in the light of the third review cycle recommendations.

68. Regarding reports of torture, the United Arab Emirates would submit its response to the Committee against Torture.

69. Since the second review cycle, the United Arab Emirates had been working to review, revise and sometimes withdraw reservations to certain international conventions. That process would continue.

70. Support centres had been set up in migrant workers' countries of origin to review their contracts, and to ensure that employment conditions were met before their arrival.

71. In 2016, a standard contract had been introduced that reflected all the rights and obligations of the parties. There were requirements in place that the contract be issued in a language that was understood by the prospective worker and that the corresponding file would be submitted to the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization to ensure compliance.

72. Since 2016, employees with a standard, open-ended contract had been able to change employers after giving three months' notice. Employees with a fixed-term contract could change employers without giving prior notice.

73. Workers must be provided with accommodation and a salary. Employers were liable to a fine of 1,000 dirhams in cases where salary payments were delayed by two months. Workers had the right to recourse or remedy through the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization and, ultimately, through a tribunal.

74. The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood oversaw the implementation of the strategies regarding childhood and children with disabilities. The goals of the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood included caring for mothers and children within a sustainable healthy environment, and strengthening an integrated and comprehensive child protection system. The main goal of the strategy for children with disabilities was to strengthen the mainstreaming of their rights into all policies and programmes, and to enhance their participation in an inclusive society.

75. Concerning human trafficking, the United Arab Emirates had tightened legislation and created a social support system to address cases and to rehabilitate victims. International cooperation was vital, given that the United Arab Emirates was an attractive economy and a transit country for persons from across the world.

76. The United Arab Emirates had set up institutions to protect women and children from domestic violence, and to immediately provide health, social, psychological and legal support to women in need. Victims were assisted in filing complaints and providing evidence for the prosecution of perpetrators.

77. Uruguay welcomed the establishment of the national Human Rights Committee, and the progress made regarding the rights of women and children and of persons with disabilities.

78. Uzbekistan acknowledged the comprehensive system comprising national strategies and plans on the promotion and respect of human rights, including National Vision 2021.

79. China highlighted the promotion of economic and social development, and the Strategic Plan of the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking.

80. Viet Nam acknowledged the legislative steps taken to better protect the rights of migrant workers, including the adoption of Federal Act No. 15 of 2017 on domestic service.

81. Yemen noted the national strategies for the empowerment of women, motherhood, childhood and youth, and efforts to establish an independent human rights commission.

82. Afghanistan commended the adoption of Federal Law No. 2 (2015) on combating discrimination and hatred, and amendments to the provisions of Federal Anti-Human Trafficking Act No. 51 of 2006.

83. Algeria praised measures to protect the rights of contract workers, and efforts made in the field of education and of the dissemination of a human rights culture.

84. Angola welcomed the creation of the Strategic Plan of the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking and of the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women.

85. Argentina welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

86. Armenia encouraged the United Arab Emirates to raise awareness of human trafficking, and to continue protecting and promoting the rights of the child.

87. Australia commended the measures to protect migrant workers and to promote gender equality and religious tolerance. It expressed concern that human rights defenders had been arrested without charge.

88. Austria expressed concern about the limitations placed on the freedom of expression and the persecution and arbitrary detention of persons who peacefully expressed dissent.

89. Azerbaijan noted the legislative changes and the establishment of national high-level institutions to protect and promote human rights on the ground.

90. Lebanon praised measures to strengthen the role of women, fight human trafficking and provide support on an annual basis to several OHCHR bodies.

91. Bangladesh welcomed the strengthening of protection for expatriate workers, including through a standard employment contract and the promotion of a wage protection system and of safer working conditions.

92. Belarus welcomed the changes in labour legislation, the approach to enhancing the rights of women and children, and the commitment to fighting human trafficking.

93. Belgium noted the need for further progress, particularly regarding workers' rights, the prevention of violence against women, and the situation of human rights defenders.

94. Benin welcomed the legislative and regulatory measures adopted to promote and protect human rights.

95. Bhutan noted the increased official development assistance contribution and the support extended to United Nations funds and activities.

96. Botswana encouraged the United Arab Emirates to step up efforts to implement the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women.

97. Brazil welcomed the achievements since the previous review cycle in areas such as women's empowerment, the rights of persons with disabilities and the fight against human trafficking.

98. Brunei Darussalam acknowledged the numerous steps taken to protect and empower vulnerable groups, and to ensure their active participation in society.

99. Burkina Faso invited the United Arab Emirates to provide the Gender Balance Council with the legal, human and financial resources necessary to fulfil its mandate.

100. Canada welcomed the steps taken to strengthen the Federal National Council, and encouraged the United Arab Emirates to expand the Council's role in future legislative reform efforts.

101. Chad encouraged the United Arab Emirates to strengthen cooperation on human rights between governmental institutions and civil society organizations.

102. Chile expressed concern at the fact that measures had not yet been adopted to guarantee the effective and prompt implementation of legislation protecting foreign workers.

103. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended the creation of the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women and of the Gender Balance Council.

104. Cuba recognized efforts to reduce the gender gap in the public and private sectors, and asked about the progress made by the Gender Balance Council.

105. Cyprus welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

106. Czechia acknowledged the progress made in several human rights areas, and encouraged the United Arab Emirates to continue its efforts in that regard.

107. Denmark welcomed the introduction of a new law to protect domestic workers, however, it expressed concern at continuing discrimination against women and girls.

108. Egypt praised the cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, and the establishment of the Gender Balance Council and of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood.

109. Estonia encouraged the United Arab Emirates to enhance cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including by accepting requests for visits from the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

110. The head of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates stated that the domestic authorities did not arbitrarily arrest or detain anyone, and that all arrests were carried out in accordance with domestic legal procedures. Arrested persons were immediately informed of the charges against them, and communication between them and their family was ensured.

111. A member of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates stated that, under the Constitution, personal documents, including passports, could not be confiscated. In order to ensure the implementation of that provision, a circular to that effect had been issued by the relevant ministry. Labour and federal legislation on domestic workers expressly stated that passports could not be confiscated. In the event of confiscation, migrant workers had the right to make a complaint and to recover their passport.

112. Article 53 of the Penal Code, under which husbands had previously had the right to chastise their wives, had been repealed. The Personal Status Law prohibited any abuse by the husband of his wife or her family. In the event of any verbal or physical abuse, a wife could have recourse to the courts, and could request compensation or judicial intervention.

113. The National Policy for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities had been adopted in April 2017, complementing existing federal legislation protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. The term "persons with determination" had been employed in the text of the Policy, highlighting the capacity of persons with disabilities to overcome challenges. A consultative board for persons with determination had been set up, comprising institutions at the federal, provincial and local levels and individuals capable of finding solutions to their challenges.

114. The Gender Balance Council had focused on a number of issues, including reviewing legislation, particularly with regard to discrimination against women. The Council had made significant progress, especially regarding capacity-building for women, their access to the courts and the approval of literature designed to raise awareness of women's rights in the public and private sectors.

115. The head of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates said that tolerance was the key message that the United Arab Emirates was transmitting through its actions in a very difficult regional environment. Among other things, that message encompassed tolerance with regard to religion, ethnicity and race: such tolerance was taught in schools. There were currently around 84 non-Muslim places of worship in the country. One of the major areas of human rights work was the promotion of tolerance through both the Ministry of Tolerance and the National Tolerance Programme.

116. Finland encouraged the United Arab Emirates to engage with civil society in the follow-up of the recommendations, and to re-establish a moratorium on the death penalty.

117. France noted the progress made on children's rights, workers' rights and the place of women in society and their representation in positions of responsibility.

118. Gabon welcomed the "Wadeema" Act and efforts to combat human trafficking, discrimination and incitement to hatred.

119. Georgia commended the improvements in women's political and economic empowerment, and encouraged the United Arab Emirates to further strengthen policies promoting women's rights.

120. Germany commended the adoption of a law safeguarding the rights of children. It remained concerned by restrictions on the freedom of expression.

121. Ghana welcomed the adoption and amendment of several laws protecting human rights. It noted that a number of international human rights treaties had yet to be ratified.

122. Greece expressed appreciation for efforts to tackle human trafficking, and to promote women's empowerment and capacity-building through national programmes.

123. Honduras welcomed actions and measures to implement the recommendations received in previous review cycles.

124. Hungary encouraged continued efforts to ensure gender equality, including in the judicial system, and to address violence against children.

125. Iceland commended efforts to empower women, and noted improvements made regarding gender parity in ministerial positions and wage equality for similar work.

126. India commended initiatives to uphold the rights of contract and expatriate workers through a more transparent contract policy.

127. Indonesia welcomed the establishment of human rights units and complaint mechanisms, and efforts to combat human trafficking through the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking and its Strategic Plan.

128. Iraq commended developments at the normative and institutional levels, and the adoption of national plans and strategies to improve the human rights situation.

129. Ireland welcomed the creation of the national Human Rights Committee, and urged the United Arab Emirates to establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles.

130. Italy welcomed efforts to combat human trafficking.

131. Japan acknowledged the adoption of the National Tolerance Programme in 2016 as a sign of commitment to protecting the values of tolerance and multiculturalism.

132. Jordan praised cooperation with various stakeholders, including civil society organizations, in preparing the national report.

133. Kenya commended progress made in implementing human rights and the support provided to the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

134. Kuwait appreciated the efforts to prepare the national report, and to promote human rights at the national and international levels.

135. Latvia made recommendations.

136. Bulgaria highlighted the voluntary pledges regarding the establishment of an independent national human rights commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles.

137. Sri Lanka welcomed measures promoting women's rights, and the efforts to combat human trafficking and to improve migrant workers' conditions.

138. Pakistan noted with appreciation the establishment of a committee to respond to communications regarding human rights.

139. The head of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates thanked all the delegations present for their contributions and stated that the recommendations would be a guiding light for the next four years in improving the human rights record of the United Arab Emirates. He reiterated that the United Arab Emirates had repealed article 53 of the Penal Code and had ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

140. A member of the delegation said that legislation had been adopted enabling women to pass on Emirati nationality to their children. Over the past four years, the Ministry of the Interior had held 3,500 human rights training sessions for law enforcement officials.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

141. **The following recommendations will be examined by the United Arab Emirates, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council:**

141.1 **Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other core international human rights conventions (Italy);**

141.2 **Accelerate steps to ratify core international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Republic of Korea);**

141.3 **Consider the possibility of acceding to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Slovenia);**

141.4 **Continue work on accession to the key international human rights instruments, including the two core treaties, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ukraine);**

141.5 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in order to strengthen protection of the human rights of foreigners residing in the United Arab Emirates (Japan);**

141.6 **Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Armenia) (Benin) (France); Accede to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Australia);**

141.7 **Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uruguay); Consider the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Peru);**

141.8 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Armenia) (Benin) (France) (Portugal); Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

141.9 **Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ghana) (Uruguay); Consider the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Peru); Consider acceding to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Republic of Moldova);**

141.10 **Strengthen the constitutional right to freedom of expression by becoming a State party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Germany);**

141.11 **Accede to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

141.12 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ghana); Consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Republic of Moldova);**

141.13 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile) (Iceland) (Liechtenstein); Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Australia);**

141.14 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death**

penalty (Ghana); Consider acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Republic of Moldova);

141.15 **Establish an official moratorium on executions, and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Slovakia);**

141.16 **Ratify and accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);**

141.17 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and enhance cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Austria);**

141.18 **Become a State party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Allow, without delay, visits of the representatives of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and issue a standing invitation to the thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Czechia);**

141.19 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Liechtenstein);**

141.20 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (France) (Liechtenstein) (Paraguay);**

141.21 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Liechtenstein) (Paraguay);**

141.22 **Take further steps, and provide the necessary resources, to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the ratification of the two remaining Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Slovakia);**

141.23 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark) (Portugal);**

141.24 **Ensure the impartial investigation of all allegations of torture, and move towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Finland);**

141.25 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh) (Ghana);**

141.26 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Burkina Faso);**

141.27 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, together with other relevant laws (Philippines);**

141.28 **Ratify those international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party, in particular, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and consider withdrawing its reservations to articles 2 (f), 9, 15 (2), 16 and 29 (1) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Honduras);**

141.29 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), and consider placing the human rights of trafficked persons at the centre of any anti-trafficking policies and measures that the country adopts (Afghanistan);**

141.30 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France) (Portugal);**

141.31 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Greece);**

141.32 **Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and incorporate that offence into its national legislation (Argentina);**

141.33 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal);**

141.34 **Ratify the Rome Statute, including the provisions on the crime of aggression (Liechtenstein);**

141.35 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and fully align its legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia);**

141.36 **Ratify the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Paraguay);**

141.37 **Consider ratifying the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Burkina Faso);**

141.38 **Ratify International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and adapt its national legislation in accordance with this instrument (Chile);**

141.39 **Accede to and implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Kenya);**

141.40 **Accede to and fully implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Slovakia);**

141.41 **Continue to take effective measures to further promote and protect human rights in the country, including through accession to international conventions and covenants in this sphere (Uzbekistan);**

141.42 **Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Latvia);**

141.43 **Withdraw its reservations to articles 2, 15 and 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Finland);**

141.44 **Consider withdrawing its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and harmonize national legislation with the obligations under the Convention (Mongolia);**

141.45 **Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and introduce amendments to its**

national family law to ensure the equal status and rights of women in all matters (Canada);

141.46 **Withdraw the reservations to article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and introduce legislative reforms that provide equal rights to women in the fields of marriage, divorce, property relations, custody of children and inheritance (Uruguay);**

141.47 **Adopt and implement equal nationality rights to guarantee, in particular, women's rights and gender equality, including by lifting reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Kenya);**

141.48 **Further strengthen its cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms (Pakistan);**

141.49 **Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

141.50 **Continue to strengthen the State's cooperation with treaty bodies, including the submission of periodic reports in the framework of international human rights treaties (Saudi Arabia);**

141.51 **Submit its report to the Committee against Torture and engage in a dialogue with it (Switzerland);**

141.52 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Portugal);**

141.53 **Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Kenya);**

141.54 **Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and accept a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Sweden);**

141.55 **Enhance cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, and extend a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Cyprus);**

141.56 **Respond positively to the pending visit requests by the special procedure mandate holders, and consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Latvia);**

141.57 **Fully cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and accept the pending requests to carry out country visits, including from the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Netherlands);**

141.58 **Cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms, including by responding positively to visit requests from special procedure mandate holders (Germany);**

141.59 **Continue its efforts to promote and protect the lives of its people, particularly children, and share best practices in youth empowerment (Brunei Darussalam);**

141.60 **Adopt a national family policy (Oman);**

141.61 **Continue to work on building national capacity in the field of human rights, in accordance with international standards (Oman);**

141.62 **Establish a relevant monitoring mechanism to enhance the effectiveness of the implementation of the National Tolerance Programme (Russian Federation);**

141.63 **Continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights, in line with its national priorities and international obligations (Pakistan);**

141.64 **Promote the role of national human rights mechanisms and institutions in the protection of human rights (Bahrain);**

141.65 **Accelerate the process of setting up a national human rights institution, in the light of the Paris Principles (Mozambique);**

141.66 **Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ghana) (Greece) (Nepal) (Republic of Korea) (Timor-Leste); Establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);**

141.67 **Consider establishing a national human rights institution (India);**

141.68 **Establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, and ensure its effective functioning (Republic of Moldova);**

141.69 **Take measures to establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Botswana);**

141.70 **Promote the establishment of a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Mexico);**

141.71 **Create a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, and establish an Ombudsman's Office (France);**

141.72 **Accelerate efforts to establish a national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles (Georgia);**

141.73 **Establish a national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles, to monitor and examine allegations of human rights violations (Kenya);**

141.74 **Take the necessary measures for the establishment of a national human rights institution, including considering cooperation with countries in the region that have already established a national human rights institution (Indonesia);**

141.75 **Establish an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mongolia); Establish an independent national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);**

141.76 **Ensure the swift establishment of an independent national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Germany);**

141.77 **Finalize the draft act on the establishment of the independent national human rights commission and make it functional (Senegal);**

141.78 **Clarify the mandate and scope of the independent national human rights commission (Egypt);**

141.79 **Accelerate the process of adopting the draft act on the establishment of the independent national human rights commission, in line with the Paris Principles, and the draft federal act on domestic violence (Gabon);**

141.80 **Work towards strengthening and developing the specialized national mechanisms in the field of human rights, especially the completion of the legal procedures related to the establishment of the independent national human rights commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);**

141.81 **Keep the State's voluntary pledges and commitments, including on the establishment of a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles (Ukraine);**

141.82 **Establish a national human rights institution, in line with the Paris Principles, and strengthen, by clarifying its mandate, the national institution for the future of women, in line with the Beijing Principles (Honduras);**

141.83 **Develop initiatives in the area of promotion and protection of human rights for the enforcement of the law within the framework of the national human rights action plan (Saudi Arabia);**

141.84 **Continue its efforts to develop a national plan for protecting and promoting human rights (Maldives);**

141.85 **Continue promoting the rights of vulnerable groups through national strategies that have already been defined (Senegal);**

141.86 **Strengthen efforts to promote education and training on human rights (Georgia) (Greece); Strengthen its efforts to promote education and training on human rights (Timor-Leste);**

141.87 **Activate the role of civil society organizations in raising awareness and increasing education in the field of human rights (Bahrain);**

141.88 **Support civil society organizations and institutions to enable them to play their full role in the promotion and protection of human rights (Chad);**

141.89 **Strengthen state programmes aimed at promoting tolerance of and respect for cultural diversity, and at combating discrimination, hatred and extremism (Belarus);**

141.90 **Adopt a comprehensive political and legislative framework for the prevention of, and the fight against, discrimination in all its forms (Honduras);**

141.91 **Take further steps to ensure submission of complaints on an equal footing, and without discrimination for any reason, on all matters that constitute a violation of human rights (Jordan);**

141.92 **Take policy measures to promote tolerance and non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation (Iceland);**

141.93 **Take appropriate steps to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and ensure that protection is provided to victims of sexual assault, and that perpetrators are identified, prosecuted and held accountable (United States of America);**

141.94 **Continue to promote sustainable, economic and social development, in order to lay a solid foundation for the enjoyment of all human rights by its people (China);**

141.95 **Protect biodiversity and stop disastrous environmental impacts, such as threats to the security of migrant birds, the destruction of live coral cover, the change of natural water flow and the destruction of natural seabed when constructing man-made islands in the United Arab Emirates (Kenya);**

141.96 **Consider abolishing the death penalty (Mozambique);**

141.97 **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes, and commute all existing death sentences (Austria);**

141.98 **Give due consideration to the legal abolition of the death penalty, and to the commutation of all death sentences to terms of imprisonment (Liechtenstein);**

141.99 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, as a first step towards its full abolition (Portugal);**

141.100 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, as the first step towards its abolition (Slovenia);**

141.101 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, as a step towards the complete abolition of this practice (Australia);**

141.102 **Reinstate a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to abolishing the practice (Belgium);**

141.103 **Ensure a moratorium on executions, and consider the complete abolition of the death penalty (France);**

141.104 **Give effect to a moratorium on executions, with the aim of abolishing the death penalty (Ireland);**

141.105 **Consider the adoption of a de jure moratorium on executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy);**

141.106 **Further consider establishing a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro);**

141.107 **Commute all death sentences in respect of drug offences and other non-lethal crimes, and amend legislation such that the death penalty is only available in respect of the "most serious crimes" and compliant with international minimal standards (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

141.108 **Establish a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to its abolition, and commute death sentences handed down for non-violent crimes, which should not be considered as being the most serious, such as drug trafficking or those relating to freedom of expression, opinion and association (Mexico);**

141.109 **Stop and investigate all acts of torture and cruel treatment, and prosecute those responsible for its order and perpetration (Qatar);**

141.110 **Prohibit the practice of secret detention, and institute safeguards against torture and other ill-treatment (Italy);**

141.111 **Create a comprehensive national strategy to systematically prevent and eliminate torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Eliminate practices of arbitrary detention and incommunicado detention. Ensure accountability of security staff for any acts of torture (Czechia);**

141.112 **Protect freedom of expression and freedom of association (France);**

141.113 **Take further steps to ensure freedom of expression by strengthening the knowledge and capacity of the State apparatus (Indonesia);**

141.114 **Continue to develop legislation and practices in the media sector, in order to promote the right to freedom of expression (Iraq);**

141.115 **Review the legal framework and amendments preventing freedom of expression (Norway);**

141.116 **Take concrete measures to ensure the right to freedom of expression, and review legislation preventing the exercise of the right to freedom of expression (Slovenia);**

141.117 **Continue to take steps to uphold freedom of expression by reviewing restrictive articles within its domestic legal framework, ensuring that legislation is fully aligned with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Netherlands);**

141.118 **Reform the 1980 law on publications and publishing, and all other related laws, to take into account the evolution of freedom of opinion and expression (Qatar);**

141.119 **Continue to work to amend the Publications and Publishing Act, thus contributing to enhancing freedom of expression, in conformity with the relevant international human rights standards (Lebanon);**

141.120 **Uphold freedom of expression in traditional and online media by removing from relevant laws the restrictions on expressions critical of State officials and institutions and the related administrative and judicial penalties (Canada);**

141.121 **Establish in national legislation the right to freedom of expression and to information, and mechanisms to guarantee its full respect and protection (Mexico);**

141.122 **Decriminalize defamation and include it as part of the Civil Code, in accordance with international standards (Estonia);**

141.123 **Amend the cybercrime law, the anti-terrorism law and provisions of the Penal Code restricting freedom of expression, in order to bring them into conformity with international standards (Sweden);**

141.124 **Guarantee that the application of the anti-terrorism law and the cybercrime law is not an obstacle to the legitimate activities of citizens, human rights defenders and the media (Switzerland);**

141.125 **Demonstrate greater respect for freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly, including by allowing individuals to criticize the Government and hold peaceful demonstrations, and revising the cybercrime law to be consistent with principles of free expression (United States of America);**

141.126 **Release all those detained because of their political views, and stop all practices of secret detention and enforced disappearance (Qatar);**

141.127 **Ensure the protection of human rights defenders (France);**

141.128 **Take steps to protect human rights defenders (Norway);**

141.129 **Take measures to prevent acts of harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders and journalists (Latvia);**

141.130 **Take the necessary measures to ensure that human rights defenders can carry out their work in a safe environment, free from harassment and intimidation (Belgium);**

141.131 **Enhance efforts to guarantee the full exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and association, and ensure a safe environment conducive to the work of human rights defenders and civil society organizations (Italy);**

141.132 **Align its legislation with international human rights obligations on freedom of expression, and take concrete measures to protect human rights defenders, including from reprisals for cooperating with the United Nations (Austria);**

141.133 **Take appropriate measures to ensure that the principle of the separation of the powers of the executive and the judiciary is enshrined in the Constitution (Ghana);**

141.134 **Strengthen the independence of the judiciary. Ensure the right to a fair trial for all without discrimination: in particular, reject evidence obtained by torture, and ensure that all arrests are subject to judicial oversight without exception (Czechia);**

141.135 **Continue efforts to address gender-based discriminatory practices in the judiciary (Hungary);**

141.136 **Disseminate the code of conduct for law enforcement officials (Kuwait);**

141.137 **Develop training programmes in the field of human rights to raise awareness among public officials, particularly law enforcement and judicial officials (Libya);**

141.138 **Continue efforts aimed at strengthening the training of law enforcement officials on international law and conventions in the field of human rights (Jordan);**

141.139 **Ensure more effective interpretation services and legal aid for foreign women in criminal court proceedings (Hungary);**

141.140 Amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to ensure that it provides for a maximum limit for pretrial detention (Botswana);

141.141 Take steps to ensure that all detainees have access to a fair and transparent trial (Australia);

141.142 Inform without delay all persons deprived of their liberty of all the charges brought against them, and establish a central register of all detainees, in order to guarantee that their families can immediately locate their whereabouts (Chile);

141.143 Implement existing laws to inform detainees promptly of the charges against them, and permit access to legal counsel for all those accused of crimes, while affording fair and transparent proceedings by an independent and impartial tribunal with all the fair trial guarantees necessary for an accused's defence (United States of America);

141.144 Continue to support victims of trafficking in human beings through specialized national mechanisms (Sudan);

141.145 Continue efforts to enable tangible progress in combating trafficking in persons (Turkmenistan);

141.146 Improve and expand identification and protection procedures for victims of human trafficking and forced labour, ensuring adequate access to support services and sheltered accommodation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

141.147 Take effective measures to fight against trafficking in human beings, and ensure the protection of victims (Angola);

141.148 Continue to combat crimes of human trafficking by tightening the legal penalty, strengthening protection measures, providing the necessary compensation and rehabilitating the victims of such crimes (Lebanon);

141.149 Strengthen the efforts of the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, in line with the five pillars of the International Framework for Action to Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol (Cuba);

141.150 Fully implement the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking Strategic Plan and the relevant federal laws, in order to combat human trafficking issues, including the sexual exploitation of children (Japan);

141.151 Continue strengthening its excellent social programmes, in order to improve the living conditions of its people (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

141.152 Continue to take necessary steps, at both the legislative and procedural levels, to ensure the full protection of the workforce in the United Arab Emirates (Morocco);

141.153 Improve the legal and policy framework, in order to further ensure respect for labour rights and freedom of expression (Brazil);

141.154 Issue the Social Action Charter to promote the rights of social workers and to protect the rights of beneficiaries of their services (Libya);

141.155 Amend Federal Law No. 10 of 2017 to specify offences falling under the term "failure to protect an employer's secrets" (Denmark);

141.156 Strengthen efforts to ensure affordable and quality health and social services, in order to improve the overall well-being of children, women and older persons (Malaysia);

141.157 Adopt and implement measures to eliminate stigma and discrimination against persons living with HIV/AIDS (Thailand);

141.158 Guarantee mandatory and free primary education for all children living in its territory (Peru);

141.159 **Put in place access and non-discrimination measures, enabling all boys and girls residing in its country to fully enjoy their right to education (Paraguay);**

141.160 **Continue efforts to uphold education, improve the quality of education and ensure equal opportunities in access to education, especially for girls (State of Palestine);**

141.161 **Continue efforts to disseminate a culture of human rights through the curricula of schools, universities and the law enforcement academy (Egypt);**

141.162 **Continue efforts to strengthen the status of women (Algeria);**

141.163 **Strengthen efforts to promote gender equality (Cyprus);**

141.164 **Further promote gender equality, and better guarantee women's rights (China);**

141.165 **Harmonize gender equality, in order to guarantee equal rights for men and women (Turkmenistan);**

141.166 **Continue to strengthen efforts to achieve equality between men and women and the empowerment and advancement of women (Bulgaria);**

141.167 **Make necessary efforts so that the principle of gender equality is protected at the constitutional level (Paraguay);**

141.168 **Amend Federal Decree Law No. 2 of 2015 to include prohibition of discrimination based on sex (Denmark);**

141.169 **Strengthen the promotion and protection of the rights of women and their equality, including by amending Federal Law No. 2 of 2015 to include gender discrimination (Germany);**

141.170 **Modify the laws to enable Emirati women to pass their nationality on to their children (Sierra Leone);**

141.171 **Take legislative measures to enable Emirati women to transfer nationality to their children without restrictions (Slovakia);**

141.172 **Enact legislative reforms to ensure non-discrimination against women, including in relation to marriage, divorce and inheritance (Sweden);**

141.173 **Review regulations regarding women in the Penal Code and in the Personal Status Law (Republic of Korea);**

141.174 **Take the necessary measures to guarantee full access for women to the justice system, and give them equal legal capacity and equal treatment before the courts (Argentina);**

141.175 **Continue measures to empower women and to combat discrimination and violence against them (Nepal);**

141.176 **Strengthen efforts to promote gender equality and to protect women from domestic violence (Myanmar);**

141.177 **Work on the adoption of the law on combating domestic violence (Tunisia);**

141.178 **Expedite the enactment of the law on domestic abuse prevention (Maldives);**

141.179 **Enact comprehensive legislation to address violence against women, including the recognition of domestic violence as an offence (Belgium);**

141.180 **Amend the Penal Code, particularly article 53, in order to repeal the right of a husband to punish his wife, and the right of parents or custodians to punish their minor children by means of physical violence (Iceland);**

141.181 Reform discriminatory evidence standards for prosecution of rape, and train police and judicial personnel in the handling cases of sexual and gender-based violence (Sweden);

141.182 Continue efforts aimed at empowering women in social, economic and cultural life (Iraq);

141.183 Continue to implement the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Emirati Women and its relevant cabinet decisions, in order to continue to promote the social engagement of women (Japan);

141.184 Review those legal provisions that hinder women from freely choosing their profession and employment (Peru);

141.185 Continue with efforts to implement the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Women, and in the early fulfilment of the voluntary pledges relating to domestic violence and labour rights (Bhutan);

141.186 Work towards enhancing gender equality in society, including by removing impediments to women's free movement and to their free choice of profession and employment (Estonia);

141.187 Continue enhancing the role of women in strengthening democracy and ensuring sustainable development (Azerbaijan);

141.188 Take further steps to improve the participation and engagement of women in political work and in the legislative processes of the country (Sri Lanka);

141.189 Redouble its efforts to enhance women's representation in leadership and decision-making positions (Pakistan);

141.190 Accord special attention to promoting participation of women in public life through the implementation of National Vision 2021 (Russian Federation);

141.191 Continue to adopt measures to ensure the effective implementation of the "Wadeema" Act and the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood (Singapore);

141.192 Continue efforts to tackle gender discrimination and inequality for all women and children, independently of their status and nationality (Portugal);

141.193 Continue prioritizing and allocating adequate resources for programmes aimed at the protection and promotion of the rights of children, women and older persons (Malaysia);

141.194 Continue to cooperate with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood and the entities concerned with children in the State, in the best interests of the child (Morocco);

141.195 Develop operational policies and programmes to protect children from the risks of sexual harassment and abuse (Azerbaijan);

141.196 Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the home and in schools (Estonia);

141.197 Adopt a law prohibiting corporal punishment of children in all settings (Montenegro);

141.198 Abolish legislation that provides for the imposition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and punishment on children (Liechtenstein);

141.199 Raise the age of criminal responsibility to above seven years (Sierra Leone);

141.200 Continue to develop procedures for investigating cases in line with the nature and needs of children (Sudan);

141.201 **Ensure the successful implementation of the National Policy for Empowering Persons with Disabilities (Brunei Darussalam);**

141.202 **Continue to strengthen its collaboration with the relevant civil society organizations, in order to provide better services to persons with disabilities, in particular in education and the labour market, so as to better integrate them into society (Singapore);**

141.203 **Continue the implementation of its national strategy by meeting all educational and rehabilitation needs of all persons with disabilities, in order to integrate them into society (State of Palestine);**

141.204 **Consider further actions to promote inclusive education for children with disabilities in regular educational establishments (Bulgaria);**

141.205 **Adopt the necessary legal framework to ensure that migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees, including children, fully enjoy their rights, according to international standards (Brazil);**

141.206 **Continue with the implementation of the initiatives upholding the rights of expatriate/contract workers (India);**

141.207 **Continue mainstreaming innovative approaches to regulating the labour market that would facilitate the provision of due and safe working conditions for all foreign workers (Belarus);**

141.208 **Continue to improve measures to protect the rights of foreign migrant workers, and further improve measures aimed at combating human trafficking, including victim assistance (Sri Lanka);**

141.209 **Further facilitate consular protection for migrant workers, including by informing the foreign consulate without delay in case of arrest or detention of nationals (Viet Nam);**

141.210 **Continue to cooperate with the countries of origin of migrant workers, in order to better protect their rights (Mauritania);**

141.211 **Take concrete steps in policies and measures for better working practices and conditions for foreign workers (Myanmar);**

141.212 **Continue the important work of protecting and promoting the rights of foreign workers (Philippines);**

141.213 **Strengthen the protection of workers, and continue to improve their living and working conditions (Yemen);**

141.214 **Continue to improve conditions for migrant workers through the implementation of recent labour reforms (Australia);**

141.215 **Continue to provide effective protection of the rights of migrant workers by strengthening its labour law to be consistent with international human rights law (Indonesia);**

141.216 **Establish measures to facilitate access to justice, interpretation services and quality legal aid for migrant workers, stateless persons and domestic workers (Sierra Leone);**

141.217 **Strengthen social protection measures for all workers, including migrant workers and women migrant workers (Angola);**

141.218 **Fully implement the domestic labour law adopted in 2017 (Slovakia);**

141.219 **Take further measures to ensure that the law is properly implemented to ensure that domestic workers are protected from abuse (Norway);**

141.220 **Ensure full implementation of recently updated labour legislation, in order to ensure that employers and sponsors fully respect the economic, social and cultural rights of migrants and domestic workers (Sweden);**

141.221 **Enforce newly enacted national provisions in the area of labour law, in keeping with relevant international instruments, including International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Ireland);**

141.222 **Continue to strengthen its labour laws through consistent follow-up of the implementation by employers of rights granted to workers in recent legal reforms, in particular the September 2017 legal changes applying to domestic workers, and establish a national institution capable of addressing migrant workers' need for protection and advocacy (Canada);**

141.223 **Continue efforts to ensure the safety, security and dignity of migrant workers, including women domestic workers, and the protection of their interests through requisite institutional and legislative measures (Nepal);**

141.224 **Fully implement legislation on migrant workers, including domestic workers, and ensure a transparent and independent follow-up of these issues (Switzerland);**

141.225 **Strengthen the protection of migrant workers, particularly female domestic workers, including by implementing existing legislation, reinforcing inspections and enhancing workers' access to remedies (Austria);**

141.226 **Fully implement its labour laws to safeguard the dignity and protect the rights of workers, particularly foreign and women workers, in full compliance with its international human rights obligations, and develop effective mechanisms for resolving labour disputes (Thailand);**

141.227 **Take further concrete steps to strengthen its legislative and executive measures to promote and protect the rights and legitimate interests of migrant workers against violations committed by employers, including illegally retaining migrant workers' passport (Viet Nam);**

141.228 **Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, in particular pregnant migrants (Viet Nam);**

141.229 **Adopt a national policy on older persons (Yemen);**

141.230 **Adopt a law on older persons (Kuwait).**

142. **The recommendations listed below have been noted by the United Arab Emirates:**

142.1 **End the unilateral coercive measures imposed on the State of Qatar immediately (Qatar);**

142.2 **Compensate all those affected by these coercive measures, provide them with fair access to justice and reparation, and bring those responsible for their human rights violations to account (Qatar).**

143. **The recommendations in paragraphs 142.1 and 142.2 have been noted, as the United Arab Emirates considers that they fall outside the scope of the universal periodic review, as stipulated in Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, and thus rejected them.**

144. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the United Arab Emirates was headed by H.E. Dr. Anwar Mohammad GARGASH, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and composed of the following members:

- H.E Ohood Khalfan Mohamed ALROUMI, Minister of State for Happiness;
- H.E. Ahmed Abdulrahman Al-JARMAN, Assistant Minister for Human Rights and International Law at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- H.E. Dr. Abdulrahim Yousif ALAWADI, Advisor to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs;
- H.E. Obaid Salem AL ZAABI, Ambassador / Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- H.E. Dr. Saeed Mohamed Abdulla ALGHUFLI, Assistant Secretary General, Ministry of Federal National Council Affairs;
- Mrs. Noora Khaleefa Salem ALSUWAIDI, Director General of the General Women's Union;
- Mrs. Reem Abdulla AL FALASY, Secretary General, The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood;
- H.E. Maher Hamad Ali Obaid ALOBAD, Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization;
- H.E. Humaid Rashed ALSHAMSI, Red Crescent Authority;
- H.E. Ahmed Mohamed Nekhaira ALMUHARRAMI, Ministry of the Interior;
- H.E. Ahmed Ali Hashem Ahmed ALHASHMI, Ministry of the Interior;
- H.E Mohammed Ali Mohammed ALSHEHHI, Ministry of the Interior;
- H.E. Mohamed Ahmed Mohamed ALHAMMADI, Ministry of Justice;
- H.E. Mohamed Abdalla ALMUR, Dubai Police Headquarters;
- H.E. Mansour Ibrahim AL MANSOURI, Director General of the National Media Council;
- H.E. Mrs. Afra Rashed Eid ALBASTI, Women and Child Foundation of Dubai;
- H.E. Mrs. Sara Ibrahim Abdulaziz SHOHAIL, Shelters for victims of Human Trafficking (EWA'A);
- Ms. Fawzia Mohammad BADRI, Ministry of Education;
- Mrs. Maitha Mohamed Al SHAMSI, Community Development Authority of Dubai;
- Mr. Dr. Mohammed Ebrahim ALMANSOORI, General Women's Union;
- Ms. Maryam Sallam ALMENTHERI, General Women's Union;
- Mr. Saeed Mohamed Saif ALMAZROUEI, Ministry of Presidential Affairs;
- Mr. Saeed Rashed ALHEBSI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Ms. Amna Abdulla Sultan ALHAMMADI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Mohamed Abdulla Ali ALSHAMSI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;

- Mr. Mubarak Mohamed ALHAMMADI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Mansour Mohamed ALJUWAIED, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Ms. Azza Mabkhout Abdulla ALSEIARI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Abdulrahman Jasem Salem ALDHAHERI, Ministry of the Interior;
- Mr. Jaber Saeed AL LAMKI, National Media Council;
- Ms. Fatema AbdulJalil ALANSARI, National Media Council;
- Mr. Mohamed Rashed ALHEBSI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Fahad Mohammed ALSHEHHI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Ali Khameis ESAADI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Ms. Shamsa Mohammed ABDULLA, Council for Gender Balance;
- Ms. Dana Humaid ALMARZOOQI, Ministry of Interior;
- Mrs. Houria Mohamed Ghalhoom ALZAROUNI, Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation;
- Mr. Abdulwahhab IBRAHIM ALHOSANI, Ministry of the Interior;
- H.E. Ms. Eman ALFALAHI, Ministry of Community Development;
- Mr. Ibrahim Abdulrahaman ALAMMARI, Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation;
- Ms. Naheda NAKAD, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Gerard RUSSEL, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
- Mr. Abdulla Mohammed Abdulla Fadel ALNUAIMI, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Mrs. Reema Ibrahim Ali ALSHARJI ALMANNAEE, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Mr. Saeed Ahmed Mohamed ALJARWAN ALSHAMSI, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mohammed AQARASH ALSHAMSI, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Dr. Ahmed AOUED, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Dr. Abdellatif FAKHFAKH, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Mrs. Dana Omar ZAIN EDDIN, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;

- Mr. Smaïl KHRIS, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Mr. Mohamed Belhassen BEN AMARA, Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva.